



26th April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Changes to the School Day

You will remember that I wrote to you in March, seeking your views on proposed changes to the school day. The consultation period has now ended and I wanted to provide you with a summary of the responses and the plans for September 2023.

A very small number of responses were received, less than 3% of the school population. Some of these responses were fully supportive of the changes, whilst the remainder highlighted a small number of concerns, which I have addressed below. I would like to thank everybody who took the time to respond to the consultation, each one has been considered carefully.

Concern	Response
<i>The change in the start and end time of the school day will impact on current drop off/pick up routines.</i>	<p>By raising the proposed changes early, we hope this would allow ample time to make any necessary amendments to current routines.</p> <p>The school will continue to open from 8am until 4pm each day, to enable pupils to be on site before and after classes. A range of extra-curricular activities, homework clubs and revision will continue to be offered free of charge. We would encourage families to use these opportunities to add flexibility to their daily routines.</p>
<i>How will all year groups be served in a 45 minute lunch break?</i>	<p>The school's catering is provided by Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council (KMBC). KMBC are responsible for the catering of all Knowsley secondary schools and already deliver a single breaktime and lunchtime to similar sized schools in the borough, within 45 minutes.</p> <p>KMBC currently operates six food service outlets at lunchtime, this will increase to 10. New food service outlets will be located in the atrium, the assembly hall and on the first floor.</p> <p>Additional dining tables and chairs for 300 pupils will be situated in the atrium and the assembly hall.</p> <p>We will also continue to promote the 'pre-order' service which enables pupils to order a range of sandwiches and salads each morning, freshly made for collection at lunchtime.</p> <p>Please note that no dining or food service will take place in the Sports Hall, as some responses suggested may be the case.</p>



Concern	Response
<p><i>The end of the school day will now only be 15 minutes before Yew Tree Primary Academy (YTPA) finishes, this may cause congestion within the car park.</i></p>	<p>We have liaised closely with YTPA during this period and both schools are confident this does not need to be an issue.</p> <p>I would ask all families to consider the variety of methods available to pupils to travel to and from school; particularly those who live in the local area. The school provides bike sheds on site for those who choose to cycle and local bus companies operate services on and near to the school grounds.</p> <p>For those who do choose to drive into the school car park, we will be ensuring they only stop in designated areas and do not use the disabled bays without a clearly displayed blue badge. Please continue to be considerate of the local residents when using your car to drive onto the school grounds.</p>

I hope the above helps to reassure you that as part of this process we have considered all eventualities and I remain confident that these proposed changes to the school day will have a positive impact on the whole school community.

The new school day timings (detailed below) will come into effect from **Wednesday 6th September 2023**, when pupils return for the Autumn Term.

<i>School open to all pupils from 8.00am</i>	
Start of the Day is 8.30am – lines or tutor room	
Registration	8.35am - 8.55am
Period 1	8.55am - 9.55am
Period 2	9.55am - 10.55am
Break	10.55am - 11.15am
Period 3	11.15am - 12.15pm
Period 4	12.15pm - 1.15pm
Lunch	1.15pm – 2.00pm
Period 5	2.00pm - 3.00pm
Finish of the Day is 3.00pm	
<i>Pupils able to remain in school until 4.00pm</i>	

Yours sincerely,
Mr I Critchley
Principal